



Congratulations
Graduates, p.4



Kidney recipient,
p.7

2021 Budget

City Budget Tightens Under Pressure from the Pandemic

by Diane Oberg

Despite some frustration with online meetings, disagreement on the issues and an occasional undeleted expletive, the Greenbelt City Council, at its final budget worksession on May 18, informally agreed upon how to address the \$3.7 million hole in the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget from the business closures resulting from the pandemic. The proposed revenue boost and expenditure cuts will be the subject of a public hearing on Tuesday, May 26.

Council could tweak the budget further up until the budget is adopted on June 8. FY21 begins on July 1.

In the first budget worksession on April 16, city staff presented council with a range of estimates of the impact of the coronavirus and proposed changes to fill the gap. Staff estimated that for the

first half of FY21 revenues would be between \$2.5 million and \$3.7 million less than originally budgeted. A month later, there are at least as many uncertainties: When will restrictions on businesses and residents start to lift? How rapidly will businesses and citizens take advantage of the relaxed restrictions? Will the federal government provide any aid to state and local governments? Will the state change the formula used to distribute gas tax proceeds to local governments? Despite these remaining questions, the city is required by state law to adopt a balanced budget by June 8.

Lost Revenue, FY20

Even before they started trimming the budget for the next fiscal year, council had to account for the revenue loss in the current

See **BUDGET**, page 8

In Memoriam

Rena Hull: Pioneer Daughter, 1999 Outstanding Citizen

by Rick Ransom with Kateri Baker



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Rena and Larry Hull on a family trip to Philadelphia

Irena "Rena" Hull, daughter of pioneer Greenbelters Otto and Evelyn Voigt, died in the hospital on April 23 at the age of 78. Her death was not from COVID-19 but from complications related to a fall and to a previous surgical procedure that left her weakened. She resided in Greenbelt her entire life.

After completing Greenbelt Center School and Greenbelt Junior High, Rena graduated from High Point High School in 1960. She was later on the reunion committee. She completed training as a nurse at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C., and graduated from the University of Maryland in 1977, where she subsequently taught for several years in the School

of Nursing. She also worked at Children's National Hospital in D.C. and in the Montgomery and Prince George's County school systems.

Volunteer Service

Greenbelters will remember Rena for her work as a volunteer. She was involved in all of her children's activities, including the Co-op Nursery School, Girl Scouts (leader), Greenbelt Swim Team (clerk of course), culminating with her organizing and leading Grad-Night non-alcohol alternative parties at the Aquatic & Fitness Center when each daughter completed high school.

Rena was named Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen in 1999. She

See **HULL**, page 4

Eleanor Roosevelt Students Perform Atmospheric Research

by Sara Harbison

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Launching weather balloons, programming scientific instruments and having pizza parties. This is a day in the life of a student intern at the Howard University Beltsville Research Campus (HUBC). HUBC is a place where students, professors and research scientists collaborate to study atmospheric science. This year, high school students Sara Harbison and Kofi Boateng had the opportunity to work at this impressive facility.

At Eleanor Roosevelt High School, many students participate in the Science & Technology program. One requirement of this rigorous program is to complete an extensive research project during senior year. Ambitious students can choose to work with professional scientists on their projects by attending high school for half the day and working as



PHOTO BY DAVID WHITEMAN

Sara Harbison pauses for a moment during testing of the heated inlet she constructed.

an intern at a lab or other research facility for the other half.

Harbison and Boateng have worked closely at HUBC with their mentor, Dr. David White-

man, a Greenbelt resident. Harbison remembers Whiteman sitting down with her the first day at

See **RESEARCH**, page 6

2021 Budget

Council Gets Down to Business But It Is Not Business as Usual

by Kathleen Gallagher

At the Greenbelt City Council meeting of May 11, the first of two public hearings on the proposed 2021 city budget was held. This hearing was scheduled to occur prior to council's final budget worksession on May 18. The second public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 26, prior to the adoption of the budget on Monday, June 8.

Often when the first hearing is held, there is little or no comment from the public. This year, when many people are focused on their own budgets, resident Molly Lester submitted a written response. She encouraged council to hold off on any type of salary increases this year, with the exception of employees such

as those in Public Works who are providing essential services at greater risk. She opposed the reclassification of any employees prior to the completion of a compensation and reclassification study by an independent consultant. Lester also was opposed to proposed changes in the ar-

rangements between the city and Friends of the Greenbelt Museum and to increased support from the city, maintaining that the original agreement had been that the museum would be self-supporting with the assistance of the Friends.

See **COUNCIL**, page 9

What Goes On

Tuesday, May 26

8:30 p.m. Council Meeting, Public Hearing on Proposed FY2021 Budget

Wednesday, May 27

7:30 p.m. Budget Worksession: Green Ridge House
All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.



PHOTO COURTESY THE FARMERS MARKET

Farmers Market President Terry Kucera, well protected, helps tape off the market. See story, page 12.

Letters to the Editor

Still Just Acting?

I am still amazed at the length of time it has taken the city manager and council to fill the vacated position of director of the Department of Recreation. Maybe this paper and or the city council can go public as to why this vital position remains vacant. It has been prior to December 2018 since the retirement of the co-directors left the position open. Recreation used to be a stalwart area of city government during the 70s, 80s, and 90s. Facilities, camps, staff and programming were gold star level during those years and should have remained such as a key quality of life issue. With all our green space to utilize for self-healing, exercise

and playful adventures the entire town enjoyed these amenities. With the current shelter-in-place actions it makes sense to have recreation non-essential. Yet without leadership in place how will we manage opening parks and playgrounds, camps and sports programming? I'm asking for answers to the question why is this position still not filled? Why doesn't Greenbelt have a permanent response to the vacancy of the Director of Recreation? Is it a priority issue? I know candidates have interviewed and for those interviewed, they deserve a decision. The residents deserve a decision.

Why?

Doug Mangum

Voter Registration Lasts Until May 27 for Primary

The deadline to register to vote in the Tuesday, June 2 Maryland Presidential Primary election is Wednesday, May 27. While same-day registration will be available to residents who choose to vote in person on June 2, the State Board of Elections strongly encourages all those who wish to register to do so by May 27 and cast their ballots by mail. Because of the novel coronavirus pandemic, voting for the June 2 election will be conducted primarily by mail.

Right now, the easiest way by far to register is to use Maryland's online registration system. Alternatively, one may mail in a voter registration application form, which can be printed from the Board of Elections website. Application forms must be postmarked no later than May 27 to assure receipt of a ballot. Online

registrations must be completed by 9 p.m. on May 27.

Subsequent to May 20, those who do not have internet access should call the Prince George's County Board of Elections at 301-341-7300 to determine options for acquiring a paper voter registration form.

For anyone who cannot complete a mail ballot, the nearest location to Greenbelt for in-person voting on June 2 is the College Park Community Center at 5051 Pierce Avenue, College Park. One can also register to vote there on June 2 or drop off a completed mail ballot there from May 21 through 8 p.m. on June 2.

For more information about the election, go to elections.maryland.gov or call the State Board of Elections at 1-800-222-8683.

Se Habla Español

Vaya a nuestra página web greenbeltnewsreview.com para ver artículos en español.



See our website, greenbeltnewsreview.com, for articles in Spanish.



City Notes

Animal Control impounded two stray kittens. The shelter (now closed to the public) houses two cats and five kittens.

All departments are training, preparing for reopening and managing city business online.

Planning and Community Development inspected bus stop improvements in Franklin Park.

Horticulture/Parks inspected playgrounds and cleaned the dog park for reopening. Sweetbay magnolia, serviceberry and red-bud trees were planted around the city.

Refuse/Recycling collected 27.79 tons of refuse and 11.61 tons of recycling material and held a virtual job fair seeking interns.

On the Virtual Recreation Center: Quarantine Crazy, a comedy featuring Springhill Lake Recreation Center's Brian Butler.

At the Aquatic & Fitness Center, pool fencing was replaced with a higher fence.

Community Center staff provided storage for GAIL's diaper distribution program.

Arts staff offered a Virtual Youth Art Share.

Park Rangers report many small groups visited Buddy Attick Park, some 40 percent without masks.

Therapeutic Recreation, recreation staffers and Sergeant Rose delivered meals to 35 seniors.

How Are You Coping?

Send us your stories and photos, showing what you are doing during forced time at home. We will publish a selection of these submissions during the coming weeks. Email editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Service or Garden Side?



This is why I stopped buying tomatoes.

- B. Glee

Letters Policy

The News Review reserves the right not to publish any letter submitted. Letters are considered accepted when published.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider withholding the name upon request.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, privacy, taste, copyright and clarity.



Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and Classified Ads - 8 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Tuesday if camera ready. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$50/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 -10 p.m.

Special Enrollment Period For MHC Health Insurance

Up until June 15, uninsured residents can enroll in the Maryland Health Connection (MHC), Maryland's Affordable Care Act marketplace, during the Coronavirus Emergency Special Enrollment Period, with coverage starting June 1. This is a time-sensitive opportunity for private health coverage; most enrollees qualify for financial help. Over 30,000 have enrolled so far. Sixty-four percent have opted for Medicaid (though people who qualify for Medicaid may enroll any time of year).

"We know many people don't access health care when they lack insurance, which is never good and particularly dangerous when dealing with a public health crisis like COVID-19," said Robert R. Neall, secretary of the Maryland Department of Health.

Testing, diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19 are covered in all MHC plans without co-pay, coinsurance or deductibles.

"The coronavirus pandemic has affected the health of about 39,000 Marylanders and counting. And while we've seen a large number of people enrolling, there are still hundreds of thousands of people in this state without coverage," explained Michele Eberle, executive director of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange. "We want to make sure every person who needs and does not have health insurance knows it is available and gets it."

One in six Marylanders has health coverage through MHC. To enroll, visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov or download the app Enroll MHC. For free assistance call 855-642-8572 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Enrollment help is offered in many languages and for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Additional extensions and financial assistance may be available for Maryland tax filers; for further information contact the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange.



Community Events

Baseball and Reading At the Virtual Library

The 2019 World Series Champion Washington Nationals and Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) are proud to provide creative ways for Prince Georgians to stay connected with baseball and reading this summer. The Nationals and PGCMLS are partnering to present Imagine Your Story, a virtual Summer @ Your Library (S@YL) program in English and Spanish for all ages that runs from May 18 through August 21. Imagine Your Story is the first online-only summer reading and engagement program in the history of the PGCMLS, ensuring that all Prince Georgians can safely engage with the library and the beloved hometown baseball team as the community recovers from the public health emergency.

The Washington Nationals are generously making a wide range of online content available for Prince Georgians through S@YL with the PGCMLS:

Reading Activities: Storytime with the World Series Champs, Reading Activities in English and Spanish, and Books for Adult Nats Fans videos; Summer Slugger Math & Literacy: Activities for 4th and 5th Graders; Home and Away with the Washington Nationals: STEM, Exercise and Reading Activities.

Tea Time on Zoom

The Greenbelt Community Tea continues to meet weekly on Thursdays at 7 p.m. for a purely social time, to help counteract cabin fever and to get to know your neighbors. Participants talk about anything and everything. Make a cup of tea and hop onto Zoom.

Find the group on Facebook at facebook.com/pg/greenbelttimebank/events. The Facebook event includes the link to the Zoom call. Those not on Facebook can email greenbelt.timebank@gmail.com to request the Zoom link.

The Community Tea is not a Greenbelt Time Bank event, but they are offering their resources to make this successful.

Assistance by Phone

AARP help with taxes will not be rescheduled this year in Greenbelt. For information on tax sites as they open, call 888-227-7669.

Phone calls to the GIVES office are being answered remotely as the Community Center remains closed.

Toastmasters Meet Online Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club has gone virtual. Those interested in improving communication or leadership skills are invited to join online or by phone every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Find details for joining in remotely at greenbelttoastmastersclubs.org.

Restaurant Updates

An updated list of local restaurants which are open for take-out/delivery can be found at www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Flick of the Week Film Discussion

The Old Greenbelt Theatre hosts film discussions via Zoom every Sunday at 2 p.m. On Sunday, May 24 the film discussed will be Dawson City: Frozen Time (2016, 121 minutes, NR), with the discussion led by Dr. Oliver Gaycken from the University of Maryland. To view the film ahead of the discussion, links are available online at greenbelttheatre.org/film/flick-of-the-week/.

Go to greenbelttheatre.org/film/flick-of-the-week/ to register for the film discussion in order to receive information on how to access the Zoom call. Those who do not have internet access can participate in the discussion via phone. Call Kelly at 301-329-2034 to request access information.

About the Film

Using archival footage to tell the story, the film pieces together the bizarre true history of a collection of some 500 films dating from 1910 through the 1920s. Lost for over 50 years, the films were discovered buried in a sub-arctic swimming pool deep in the Yukon Territory in 1978.



Time Bank Hosts Talk On Fraught Topics

On Sunday, May 24 from 3 until 4:30 p.m. the Greenbelt Time Bank will host a discussion on Difficult Conversations: Talking Across the Lines. The discussion will be via a Zoom link and is open to non-Time Bank members. Participants must register in advance by contacting Linda Warren Seely at lwseely@gmail.com.

With the political divide in the U.S. ever widening, and with concerns about the COVID-19 crisis and with increased social distancing, the ability to communicate effectively is or can be significantly compromised. For those who have ever had to have a difficult conversation, or are facing the need to have one, the group will explore strategies for having them and tips on how to avoid becoming overwhelmed.

Storytelling in ASL Crowdcast Saturdays

The Prince George’s County Memorial Library System, in partnership with the Old Greenbelt Theatre, offers Storytelling with ASL (American Sign Language) hosted by Erikson Young on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. on Crowdcast. The virtual program, recommended for ages 2 to 5, will continue for the duration of the public health emergency.

Go to pgcmls.info/virtual-events to find the link on Saturday mornings.

GAC Cabaret On Facebook

Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC) is hosting a virtual cabaret on Facebook, where participants can post weekly videos of themselves singing a song based on a different theme each week. To join the group, go to Facebook and search for GAC virtual cabaret.

Virtual Programs At the Library

All of the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System’s virtual programs are listed at pgcmls.info/virtual-events. Virtual events produced by the library are broadcast on Crowdcast, with select additional streams to Facebook, YouTube and Periscope.

The library’s virtual programs frequently feature special guests from partner organizations.

Spanish language virtual programs are now available on a weekly basis. They include Biblioníños, a biweekly Spanish read-aloud program for children ages 2 to 5, and a bilingual English/Spanish read-aloud on Saturday at 9:30 a.m.

On Tuesdays at 4 p.m. the library offers a weekly “Café a las cuatro” series of discussions in Spanish with special guests from local government to discuss resources and current issues.

Local Visual Artists Virtual Studio Tour

Visual artists are invited to participate in a Virtual Open Studio Tour at the June 7 Artful Afternoon. Participants will be scheduled to host a brief home/studio visit live online. The tour will feature adult artists who live, work, study or play in Greenbelt, including but not limited to the Community Center’s artists in residence. Artists are encouraged to sign up early for more information at greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

City of Greenbelt arts programs are sponsored in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

Virtual Recreation

Greenbelt Recreation has moved online. Go to www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation to access a large range of online activities, including classes, video tutorials, sing-alongs and more. If you missed May’s online celebration of spring, you can still access the art activities in the Visual Arts section of the Virtual Recreation Center. These activities include spring coloring pages, an origami lily tutorial, a look at flower-wearing around the world, and art projects inspired by contemporary artist Kehinde Wiley.



PHOTO BY GINA DENN

Clay roses by Gina Denn. Go to the Visual Arts section of the Virtual Recreation Center to learn how to make your own ceramic roses.

Community Compost

The hot compost station near Springhill Lake Recreation Center is still actively collecting food scraps from current participants.

Email questions to greenbeltneighborhoodcompost@gmail.com.

Greenbelt Lake Update



PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN

People fishing at the Lake stand close to the low water-line. According to Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby, major repairs to the dam have been completed and the Department of Public Works has completed installing plantings around the perimeter of the lake. This week the state granted the city permission to begin refilling the lake. During the refilling of the lake the city is required to maintain some flow in the stream below the dam by keeping the drain valve slightly open. Once the lake is full the valve will be closed.



PHOTO BY ANNA DAHLEN

This groundhog was observed on Eastway during the past several weeks. Photographer Anna Dahlen (age 11) has been calling the groundhog "Frankel," as suggested by April Allen Ashpes, a member of the Greenbelters Facebook group.

GATe GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION Friday May 22 - Thursday May 28		
PROGRAM SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE		
7 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
8 am	Democracy Now!	• Repeat of Yesterday's Program
9 am	GATe Classic Film ★ Romance/Comedy • 1946	• Love Laughs at Andy Hardy • Mickey Rooney • Directed by Willis Goldbeck
11 am	Greenbelt Newsreel Weekends SAT/SUN	• or Selections From the GATe Archive • Member Spotlight • GATe Community Producers
12 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
1 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs	• Kids Science Quiz Show
2 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
3 pm	GATe Classic Film ★ Romance/Comedy • 1946	• Love Laughs at Andy Hardy • Mickey Rooney • Directed by Willis Goldbeck
5 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs Weekends SAT/SUN	• Kids Science Quiz Show • Member Spotlight • GATe Community Producers
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8 pm	GATe Classic Film ★ Romance/Comedy • 1946	• Love Laughs at Andy Hardy • Mickey Rooney • Directed by Willis Goldbeck
10 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
11 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
12 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77 STREAMING LIVE at www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream		



We were saddened to learn of the death of the Co-op's Harry Boyd, who worked as a meat cutter since 2004, up until his recent death of natural causes. He was known as a "good man, good friend, very caring and loved telling jokes." Shoppers will remember his helpful ways, his friendly smiles and hellos.

Honors to Greenbelters Mary Sies and Isabelle Gournay, editors, along with Rob Freestone, of Iconic Planned Communities and the Challenge of Change (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press 2019) which has been selected to receive the prize for best planning history edited work for 2020 by the International Planning History Society.

Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School Class of 2020, including Valedictorian Melissa Jones and Salutatorian Nicole Miko. The Prince George's high schools eGraduation Celebration will pay tribute to nearly 8,000 graduating seniors and will air Saturday, May 30 on WJLA 24/7 News (Comcast 808, FiOS 508, DirecTV/Dish 8) at 7 p.m. with an encore Sunday, May 31 on ABC7 at noon. The school system is also providing all graduates with lawn signs.

Congratulations to Jourdan Page who has won a Maryland Public Secondary School Athletic Association Minds in Motion award funded by the Allstate Foundation. She is a Student Government Association and Black Student Union board member. She played volleyball for ERHS where she was a three-year starter on varsity, two-time team Most Valuable Player and two-time leader in kills. Page will be attending Morgan State University.



Jourdan Page
Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Worship with us at

Greenbelt Baptist Church

Biblical
Confessional
Reformed
Gospel Centered

Live online services
Sundays at 10:30am
Wednesdays at 7:00pm
www.greenbeltbaptist.org
Instagram/Facebook/YouTube

<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>
www.greenbeltbaptist.org
301-474-4212
@GreenbeltBaptist

Obituary

Harry Boyd

Harry Truman Boyd, age 72, died on Friday, May 8, 2020. He had worked at the Co-op Supermarket since 2004.

He is survived by his daughter, Stephanie E. Boyd and grandson, Aaren L. Boyd; nephew, Ricko L. Boyd, nieces Tammy Barksdale and Sherika Poindexter as well as a host of relatives and friends. Viewing will be held Tuesday, June 2, 1 to 3 p.m. at Stewart Funeral Home, 4001 Benning Road, N.E., Washington, D.C.

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

☒ I have mailed my ballot!

☒ I have completed my census

Nonprofit?

Get your message here for \$30

www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc

301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

In person worship services cancelled for now.

Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc.

10 a.m. Sunday mornings

The Bible Says...

The Lord will protect you from all evil;
He will keep your soul.

Psalm 121:7

Sunday Worship Services
10a-11a ONLINE
MCFcc.org/online

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
All services and activities are currently virtual
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

HULL continued from page 1

served with the Greenbelt Labor Day Committee and after being vice-president three times moved up to serve a one-year term as elected president. She completed CERT training with the city Police Department and was a member of the County Medical Reserve Corps which was activated for Hurricane Katrina. She spent three weeks as part of the New Orleans recovery process. The past few years, Rena and her husband Larry participated in Cookies-on-the-Bridge at Gladys Spellman Overpass near Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Rena's service to her church was also lifelong. She was a member of the choir almost from the time she could stand up and sing. After her own experiences as a youth at Greenbelt Community Church, she went on to teach Sunday school and lead a youth group. She was a member of all of the boards at different times and served a three-year term as moderator.

Travel
One of her great passions was travel and she took many road trips with Larry. She never used a GPS or phone directions, preferring instead her trusty maps and road atlas. She had been to all 50 states as well as traveled around the globe to Germany and China. In spring 2019 Rena went along on a RV trip to Alaska with Larry, her brother Ken and his wife Gail. She came home by way of San Francisco in order to see her niece, Jenna, and meet a new grandnephew, Simon. She traveled again in October with her husband, daughter Kateri and granddaughter Adelaide to a

Chinook Camper Rally in Chinocoteague.

Author Rick Ransom notes: Church is where I met and most often encountered Rena. I can clearly picture the large wooden cross she wore around her neck in her later years. Her calming and welcoming spirit was well-suited to that environment. Barbara and I frequently encountered Rena and Larry on their daily walk around town, even as their pace slowed. She often wore special shoes in which you could see actual springs between the bottom of the shoe and the outer sole.

Rena was bright, involved and knowledgeable in current affairs as well as in church and city history. She carried herself with the cheerfulness she inherited from her mother. As her friend Kathy Reynolds noted, she always had "that beautiful smile and quiet hello." It would be hard to find a more dedicated couple than

Rena and Larry and a stronger and more loving mother and friend than Rena.

Rena is survived by her husband of 43 years, Larry, whom she met through a singles group at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Lanham, and by her brothers Larry (Marsha), Kenny (Gail) and John (Melissa). She also leaves three children: Rena Shylanski (Steve) of Odenton, Lynn Hull (Joshua Seager) of Gambrills and Kateri Baker (Matt). Kateri lives next door to the Hull home on Lakeside Drive. Rena will be missed by her grandchildren Katelyn, Matthew, Hannah, Levi, Adelaide, Gena and Evelyn, and her many nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements are on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Donations are welcome in her name to the local Meals on Wheels serving Greenbelt, 9601 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD 20740.



Rena and Larry Hull attend the News Review 75th Anniversary gala in 2012.

Greenbelt Community Church

Our Sunday Worship Services are Cancelled until Further Notice

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
a just world for all

Check us out on Facebook Live
Sunday at 10:30 AM
<https://www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD>

1 Hillside Road 301-474-6171 Rev. Glennyce Grindstaff

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

May 24 10 a.m.
"The Great Depression"

Rev. Rachel Christensen; with Worship Associate Tricia Most

What are the things we can learn from the stories of the Great Depression? Online only service. Streaming information at <http://bitly.com/TeamPBUUC>

St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church

www.sthughofgrenoble.org

Visit our website for daily updates and spiritual reflections.

Celebrate Mass Live on Facebook:
Sunday — 11:00 am, Monday through Thursday — 12:00 noon, Friday — 7:15 am, and Saturday — 9:00 am

"Jesus Christ is risen, Alleluia"



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FY 2021 BUDGET

Tuesday, May 26, 2020, 8:30 p.m.

- ORGANIZATION**
Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions
- COMMUNICATIONS**
Presentations
- Chesapeake Awareness Week Proclamation
Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2021 Budget.
Petitions and Requests
(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)
* **Minutes of Council Meeting**
Administrative Reports
Committee Reports
- LEGISLATION**
- Resolution for State Enterprise Zone Designation
- 2nd Reading, Adoption
- OTHER BUSINESS**
- Renewal of Speed Camera and Speed Camera Collections Contract
- G12 Bus Service
- Discussion of Outdoor Festivals and Labor Day Event
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- * Appointments to Advisory Boards
- * Reappointment to Advisory Groups
- COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL**
Cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and streamed at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv as it happens.

Resident participation:Join By phone: (301) 715-8592, Meeting ID: 839 5041 2852, Password: 960027

In advance the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov

FREE PARENTING CLASS

Parenting During Corona Virus

Online Classes:

Making Smart Money Decisions (May 27 & June 3)

Be the Best Parent You Can Be!
Time: 5pm - 6:00pm
To register email: cares@greenbeltmd.gov

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES
Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Public Safety Advisory Committee, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee
For more information call 301- 474-8000



Greenbelt Emergency Diaper Pick-Up
Need help with diapers? In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, The Greenbelt Nursery Project is supporting needy Greenbelt families by distributing diapers on Monday, June 1st, 2020. Parents are required to bring state-issued photo ID, each child's birth certificate, proof of Greenbelt residency (mail from a federal, state, or local government agency which display their name and Greenbelt residential address).
No walk-ups accepted. Please register online at <https://forms.gle/yNrDyTkngkK1s5wx6>. Registration required. Time and location given upon submitted registration.



CITY OF GREENBELT NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The City Council of the City of Greenbelt proposes to increase real property taxes.

- For the tax year beginning July 1, 2020, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 2.46%, from \$2,057,695,877 to \$2,108,330,602.
- If the City of Greenbelt, Maryland maintains the current tax rate of \$0.8275 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 2.46%, resulting in \$419,002 of new real property tax revenues.
- In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.8076, the constant yield tax rate.
- The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.8275 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 2.46% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$419,002 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax increase will be held at 8:30 p.m. on Monday, June 8, 2020, virtually via Zoom.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged. Public participation by Dial-in: +1 301 715 8592; Meeting ID: 851 0381 7576; Password: 020648

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 for further information.



Seniors Avoiding Isolation by Navigating Technology SAINT Pilot Project



Amazon ECHO SHOW 8

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) Program is launching a pilot program for 50 seniors 60+ or disabled adults 50+ living in incorporated Greenbelt to provide:

- Free Comcast Internet Essentials for one year
- Amazon Echo Show to link residents with family and friends, classes, music and more.

Households must have a smart phone not a flip phone and participate in one of the following to enroll:

SNAP—Food Stamps, Section 8 Housing, Medicaid, SSI, or Veterans Pension Recipient

For more information please contact Sharon Johnson, Community Case Manager

CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO ONE OF THE CITY'S CHARITABLE FUNDS

The City of Greenbelt receives no portion of these funds nor does it charge an administrative fee for processing the donations

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND TO ASSIST ST. HUGH'S FOOD PANTRY:
This fund is overseen by the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association (GILA). The St. Hugh Food Pantry will also take food donations that are dropped outside of the church office at 135 Crescent Road. Thank you so much for your help!

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND: Established to accept and disburse donations received to assist Greenbelt residents to pay rent to avoid possible eviction. Approximately a dozen individuals receive assistance from these funds each fiscal year.

Now you may donate online at www.greenbeltmd.gov/donations.

You can also mail a money order or check to: City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt Road 20770. Please notate which fund in the notes section of the check. You may also use the drop box on the flag side of the building. Receipts will be provided and mailed out to you.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.** Virtual meeting information and agenda on www.greenbeltmd.gov

Tuesday, May 26 at 8:30pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETIN/PUBLIC HEARING ON FY 2021 BUDGET.** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Wednesday May 27 at 7:30pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION w/Green Ridge House.** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Thursday May 28 at 7:30pm **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD,** *On the Agenda: Updates: Science Fund and Zoning Reports to Council, Designating portions of Greenbriar & Schrom Hills Parks as Forest Preserve, Trails Plan kickoff discussion, Progress Report: Delineating Community Garden and Forest Preserve boundaries, Requirements Overview: DNR grant proposal for stormwater management, and Native American name for stream*

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION IS POSTED ON THE MEETINGS CALENDAR WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV

Greenbelt CARES Family Teletherapy
Does your child seem angry, depressed, anxious? Difficulty adapting to COVID 19 changes in family life? Family stress related to conflict, substance use or loss?
Contact us to learn more about our remote counseling services: cares@greenbeltmd.gov or 301 345-6660
current openings Wednesday evenings 6 - 9pm

OFFICIAL NOTICE
The Greenbelt City Council has scheduled a **PUBLIC HEARING** To be held during the Regular Meeting of Council Tuesday, May 26, 2020 8:30 p.m.
CONCERNING THE PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND EACH OF THE OTHER FUNDS OF THE CITY.

The Public Hearing will be held VIRTUALLY by ZOOM. Public participation is encouraged by phone: (301) 715-8592; Meeting ID: 839 5041 2852; Password: 960027. All citizens of Greenbelt will have a reasonable opportunity to provide written and oral comments and to ask questions concerning the entire budget. If special accommodations are required to make this meeting accessible to any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 or e-mail the City Clerk at banderson@greenbeltmd.gov no later than 10 a.m. on the meeting day.

The budget is posted on the City Web site at <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov>. For more information, or a copy of the budget please call 301-474-8000. Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

RESEARCH continued from page 1

her new internship and discussing future projects, coding techniques and opportunities available to her. This was the beginning of a year full of great experiences.

First, Harbison and Boateng participated in a tethersonde launch. After a clear, cloudless night, they met up with White-man at HUBC before dawn. As the sun rose, they gathered various atmospheric measurement instruments and created a small package. They donned gloves and filled the fragile weather balloon with pure helium. They then set up a small drill meant to release and reel in the tethered weather balloon and corresponding package at will. When the time was right, they began their tethersonde experiment. After hours of data collection, they reeled in their system one last time. The results were even better than expected. The trio had captured a near-perfect temperature inversion. Boateng later compared this data to simulations produced with the NOAA High-Resolution Rapid Refresh model.

The students studied the topics of air pollution and particulate matter. Harbison and Boateng installed particulate matter sensors at various locations around HUBC and studied their measurements using programming software. The students learned about a large, professionally operated particulate matter sensor owned by the Maryland Department of the Environment. Harbison later

designed and developed a heated inlet to calibrate particulate matter measurements.

Throughout their time as interns, the students met with many professional scientists. This included assisting with radiosonde launches as part of the Global Climate Observing System Reference Upper-Air Network (GRUAN) initiative and participating in weekly site meetings. GRUAN, an international program designed to assist atmospheric scientists, is made up of 26 sites around the world. HUBC is the only one of these sites that is both GRUAN certified and classified as an educational institution.

At weekly meetings, scientists working at HUBC as well as guest speakers would share their current work. In addition to being a way to learn about new topics and scientific endeavors, these meetings were paired with pizza parties. For Harbison and Boateng, this meant much conversation regarding their college and career goals.

After high school, both Harbison and Boateng will attend the University of Maryland in College Park. Their experiences and opportunities working at HUBC, they believe, are only the beginning of their scientific careers. They plan on pursuing degrees in environmental and computer engineering, respectively, drawing on their extraordinary time as high school interns.

2021 Budget

Economic Concerns Drive Discussion on Future Plans

by Matt Arbach

The upcoming budgets for the city planning and economic development departments were reviewed at a worksession with the Greenbelt City Council on Wednesday, May 13. Both departments have been significantly impacted by the pandemic, requiring revisions to their budget proposals and goals moving forward.

An update on the city’s pandemic situation began the meeting. Despite the recent announcement by Governor Larry Hogan of a stage one state re-opening, the state of emergency continues in Prince George’s County, which leads the state in the most COVID-19 cases, and Greenbelt, with only those businesses deemed essential remaining open. City Manager Nicole Ard reiterated that the city still takes its guidance from both the governor and county executive in matters related to COVID-19. City Treasurer Laura Allen said she is in the midst of preparing a “good, acceptable, complete” submission plan in order to acquire recovery funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which is a “one-and-done opportunity” without the chance for negotiation or discussion.

City Planning

Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby asserted that the planning department has rallied despite a staff shortage, predicting that last year’s success will continue in 2021. Supervisor Inspector Gilberto Cabrera has drafted a continuity of operations plan for the city that sets in place procedures needed in the case of an even more serious future crisis. A 20 percent inspection rate of rental properties has been maintained, with both city inspectors now certified. City inspectors have been doing drive-by inspections, said Hruby, for property maintenance violations in lieu of

in-person inspections.

The planning department has sent letters to all property managers and HOAs educating them on proper sanitation, especially in common areas. Said Hruby, “The property managers understand the seriousness of the issue.”

The city is committed to installing up-to-date smoke detectors, particularly in complexes like Franklin Park. Hruby also noted that the city has received 11 applications for short-term rentals, most of which are still under review with a few approved.

Steps toward the maglev train, the widening of I-495 and the Royal Farms store construction have been placed on hold. Councilmember Emmett Jordan was eager for the Greenbelt Road Corridor project to “not fall by the wayside.”

Hruby informed council that the planning department is in a hiring process for a new city planner, inspector and assistant director, hopefully in the next three months – something the city “desperately needs,” said Councilmember Judith Davis.

Business Recovery

Economic Development Coordinator Charise Liggins laid out her efforts at outreach and support to all of Greenbelt’s businesses, for which she received praise from council. Assessing current needs and providing resources and financial avenues to businesses has been her primary task. Her goal is to keep lines of communication open throughout this crisis and especially afterward.

Davis said that Prince George’s County is the only county sharing recovery funds with its municipalities, for which County Executive Angela Alsobrooks has garnered praise from the Maryland Municipal League. Davis also suggested that the city draft a letter in support of the Heroes Fund legislation, now be-

ing reviewed in the U.S. Senate.

Beltway Plaza

Marc “Kap” Kapastin, general counsel for Quantum Companies which manages Beltway Plaza, reasserted his company’s daily commitment to all the businesses there, now and in the future, both with technical and financial advice.

He laid out sobering statistics regarding the current state of retail: 30 percent of all small businesses will not survive the next 30 days and 40 to 70 percent of these will not exist in the pandemic’s aftermath. He said it was clear that there would be a loss of businesses at Beltway Plaza. He stated that already Books-a-Million will vacate the mall, with AMC Theatres not reopening until July 15.

Quantum has entreated all state senators and representatives to create a business recovery fund, and Kapastin encouraged Greenbelt to “double-down” on this initiative. Of his tenants, Kapastin said, “We are in this together. We will do everything we can to survive and thrive later.”



Kofi Boateng holds a weather balloon as he prepares for a GRUAN radiosonde launch.

PHOTO BY SARA HARBISON

NR

Don't be a doormat!
Be **ON** one.
\$20 gets you on thousands.
www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com

Greenbelt Federal Credit Union
SOCIAL DISTANCING / NEW BUSINESS HOURS
until further notice

Due to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and our state Governor's recommendations, our business hours have been modified.

The branch will be **closed to members on Tuesdays and Thursdays**; you may call to schedule an appointment for loan closings or new account openings. The branch will be open on Mondays and Wednesdays normal business hours, and on Fridays from 9am to 5pm. Thank you for your understanding.

Please remember Social Distancing to keep yourself and our staff safe.

We encourage our members to utilize our electronic services as much as possible. This includes **online banking w/bill pay, visiting our atm to make deposits and withdrawals, and using our mobile app to check your balance.** If you need assistance signing up or using these services please contact us and our staff will be happy to help you.

Thank you for your membership.



Greenbelt FCU

To our *City of Greenbelt* and *GHI* employees, A shout out for all that you do to keep us up and running, happy, healthy and safe.
Three cheers and Hip, Hip, Hurrah
from 5 Ct. Eastway



City Council and Staff Review Earth Day and COVID Needs

by Matt Arbach

Mayor Colin Byrd began the April 27 meeting of the Greenbelt City Council with a moment of silence in acknowledgement of the 265 deaths that have resulted from the pandemic ravaging Prince George’s County.

This was followed by a retro-active presentation by City Sustainability Coordinator Dr. Luisa Robles of the Earth Day 2020 celebration performed on April 25. Due to social distancing requirements, planned events like a food scrap/compost gathering and clean-ups at Indian Creek, Greenbelt East and Greenbelt Center were delayed until a future date. Robles and council encouraged residents to do clean-ups on their own as they take walks. The free mulch is available at the end of Northway Extended with council keen on providing proper procedures for use. Events like the Crazy Quilt and Green Man festivals in the summer are being considered, with Robles saying “we are trying to do as many as we can.”

Council was concerned that compliance with social distancing and mask requirements at local stores was uneven at times and urged residents and store owners to be vigilant. Byrd reminded everyone of the 142 COVID-19 cases (at that time) in Greenbelt alone.

City Manager Nicole Ard gave an update on the response to the pandemic, including providing a broader range of essential services in a virtual way, such as GED classes and recreation programs. Councilmember Judith Davis was appreciative of Ard’s starting the process of possible disaster reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, with staff now keeping track of expenses. Davis hoped that any future federal or state funds would “trickle down to us.” Ard said that the county is working with World Central Kitchen, which services low-income seniors and families. City staff have proposed Franklin Park and Green Ridge House as possible sites to the organization. Regarding funding to the food pantry at St. Hugh’s Church, Ard said that the Greenbelt Interfaith Leaders Association (GILA) had approved transferring funds between the two GILA funds main-

tained by the city in an effort to support the community.

Council reiterated that 43 percent of residents still have not completed their census forms.

Council voted unanimously to extend the cooperation agreement with Prince George’s County, in regard to the county’s administering of HUD Community Development Block Grant funds, for another three years. This would ensure a more efficient and stable process and would avoid “an administrative nightmare,” said Councilmember Emmett Jordan.

There was a unanimous vote for an easement on three proposed bikeshare stations in the city with Capital Bikeshare. The locations are at Crescent/Ridge Road, Roosevelt Center and Greenbelt Station Parkway. This is a further step toward installation and subsequent maintenance. Both Byrd and Jordan were disappointed that Schrom Hills Park lacked a designation, with Davis stating that such an addition would require full use of what already exists.

The meeting concluded with a lengthy discussion on the implementation of a mask or facial covering requirement at Buddy Attick Park. The crux was on enforcement and who would be responsible. The debate also focused on the legality involved (whether it would be enforcement through persuasion, a municipal infraction or the creation of a city ordinance) and the potential for face-to-face conflict. Park rangers lack enforcement powers, which would then mean police could be called in when faced with non-compliance, something Police Chief Richard Bowers was concerned about, as it would be a severe drain on police resources. Assistant City Manager David Moran said that Section 12-49 of the City Code empowered council to enforce posted rules at city facilities, thus not requiring something like an ordinance.

Council voted 6 to 1 in favor of a rule which would mean signage at the Park informing of a mask requirement, with a possible fine. Byrd saw this as a beginning step to address the problem that could be revisited later on with more serious enforcement protocols if this step proved insufficient.

Kidney Recipient’s New Life Is Like Winning the Lottery

by Sue Krofchik

The phone rang sometime around 5 o’clock or so that Tuesday evening. The George Washington University Hospital (GWUH) on-call transplant coordinator was on the line. “We have a kidney for you. Be here in two hours.” This was the call Greenbelt resident Irwin Wartell spent four years hoping for and worrying would never come.

Wartell’s life changed forever in the wee hours of Wednesday, March 11, when he became the recipient of a kidney transplant and, at age 81, the oldest person at the GWUH Transplant Institute to receive a kidney.

Wartell developed kidney disease about 10 years ago due to hypertension. When medications and dietary changes could no longer keep his kidney functioning well enough to remove waste products from his blood, he was placed on dialysis, a grueling procedure, three times a week. Sessions last four to five hours, different for each person.

Dialysis is not a cure. It buys time until a kidney becomes available and the best potential recipient is determined. A person wishing to be a recipient undergoes extensive testing and evaluation by a multidisciplinary team including a surgeon, nephrologist, social worker, dietitian and others, to determine if he or she is healthy enough to withstand transplant surgery.

Once accepted into the program, the person is placed on the master wait list, maintained by the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS). When a kidney becomes available, they determine the recipient by looking first at those in the local area, and if none, then nationally. UNOS found Wartell to be the best recipient.

The donor kidney was flown in from an undisclosed state to an



PHOTO COURTESY IRWIN WARTELL

Irwin Wartell stands next to his car with the sign telling of his desperate need for a kidney donor. After four years on the transplant list, an almost perfect match was found on March 11.

undisclosed area airport and then by ambulance to GWUH. (Most information about donors and recipients is held in strict confidence.) It arrived around 9 p.m. and surgery began just before midnight, lasting about five hours from pre-op prep to waking up in post-op care.

Director of the GWUH Transplant Institute, J. Keith Melancon, M.D., performed the surgery.

“It was like he won the lottery. The donor match was nearly perfect.” Other factors added to the success. The donor was a relatively young 43-year-old man with good kidneys, who died in an accident, and Wartell was in very good shape physiologically, with a body more like that of a 60-year-old. He did not smoke or drink, was not overweight and

had healthy vessels.

Wartell will never forget the four years he waited and wondered if he would ever get a kidney. He would like his story to give hope to those waiting for a kidney and encourage others to consider becoming donors.

Melancon stresses that age is not a factor in selection of a kidney recipient. “Health is what matters. Age is just a number.” He describes the need for kidneys as great and said that even though 20,000 kidney transplants take place each year in the U.S., there are 100,000 people on regional wait lists and many die waiting.

Two months after transplant surgery Wartell says he is doing well. Being freed from dialysis has given him his life back. “I still can’t believe it happened.”



PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

Baby birds demand breakfast in a tree on Ridge Road.



PHOTO BY MARY LOU WILLIAMSON

A dead tulip poplar that was struck by lightning two years ago is coming down.

GREENBELT

Strawberries, Oh My!

FARMERS MARKET

Market # 3

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sunday.

Parking lot behind the New Deal

Early is busy, entry may be restricted!

- Check vendors for online ordering, fast pick-up. GFM website, see vendor tab.
- Market conforms strictly to all P.G. health standards – more rigorous than stores.
- Masks required! Hand sanitizer on entry
- Market is one-way, take-out only

Distancing observed in shopping and queueing. Be moving right along, please.

- Contactless payment highly desirable.

For more information on vendors, rules, payment, online orders and volunteering/donating visit WWW.GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org.
GFM thanks GCERT and the City for the help.

BUDGET continued from page 1

fiscal year, which ends June 30. Council’s policy is to retain at least 10 percent of general fund expenditures as an unassigned reserve fund, preferably more. Prior to the pandemic, staff expected to be starting FY21 with a 17 percent reserve, leaving some room for adding things to the proposed budget.

However, effects of the business closures and stay-at-home orders have reduced reserves to just 12.7 percent, limiting the effectiveness of Assistant City Manager David Moran’s and City Treasurer Laura Allen’s proposed FY21 drawdown to 12 percent by June 30, 2021. The realities leave only a 0.7 percent margin from which to draw.

Moran walked council through two scenarios based, respectively, on the minimum and maximum estimates for the reduction in city revenues. Although Allen and Moran recommended working from the low end of the estimates (which would reduce revenues to \$30.5 million), Councilmember Edward Putens urged using the even more conservative (greater revenue loss) scenario, which would reduce revenues to \$29.3 million. His colleagues agreed.

Regardless of what council does now, the budget will be reviewed in January (and perhaps sooner) to see if further reductions in expenditures are needed or if some cuts can be restored.

Future Revenues

The biggest estimated revenue loss is from commercial property owners who are expected to request reductions in their assessed value that could reduce revenues by up to \$1.5 million. Commercial property, unlike residential, is assessed based on the revenue generated by the property and the reduction can be retroactive and for up to three years. In the sole resident comment during the meeting, Bill Orleans renewed his call for the city to fight large abatement requests.

The next largest revenue loss is recreation fees. With two seasons of classes cancelled, closure of the Aquatic & Fitness Center and uncertainty regarding other classes and programs, staff is estimating a loss of \$677,700. Lower receipts from income tax, admissions and amusement taxes, hotel and motel taxes, highway user revenues, parking citations, red light and speed camera fines would reduce revenues by another \$2.2 million. (The admissions and amusement tax is assessed on movie theaters, live performances and the Labor Day Festival. To date no decision has been made whether the July 4 fireworks or the Festival will be held.)

At least three other councilmembers supported Councilmember Judith Davis’s proposal to raise the fine for parking violations to \$50 from the current level of \$40, the first change since 2006, generating an additional \$15,000 in revenue and bringing the estimated FY21 revenues to \$29.3 million.

Expenditures

On the expenditure side, updated information has produced \$203,100 in savings due to lower than expected health insurance premiums and a lower than expected interest rate on the loan for the dam repairs. In addition, a city grant application was not approved, freeing up \$33,100 in matching funds otherwise required. Moran emphasized that all programs, projects and purchases the staff has been recommending have been dropped or will be deferred as needed. However, he said, these cuts are necessary to plug the hole in the budget.

The measures discussed in April to reduce expenditures are still in play: cancellation of non-essential travel and training, keeping 10 positions vacant for all or part of the year and deferring equipment purchases and capital projects not supported by grants. In addition, staff pay increases would be deferred or eliminated. With these changes, expenditures are now estimated at \$28.78 million.

After these changes, estimated revenues are \$480,000 greater than estimated expenditures.

In addition to the measures above that appeared to have council support, Councilmember Emmett Jordan presented his ideas for additional actions including drawing the unassigned fund balance down to 11 percent and not filling the recreation director position, which has been vacant since December 2018. This would free up about \$179,500, he calculated. He also pushed hard to repurpose the economic development revolving fund, which has not worked out the way council expected, and to use those funds to assist residents and businesses. He found little or no support for these proposals.

Davis and Councilmember Leta Mach had also submitted budget proposals but they were not discussed.

Mayor Colin Byrd thought it best to leave coronavirus relief to the state and federal governments saying that Greenbelt does not have the funds to help many people. Roberts agreed.

Wish List

In addition to Jordan’s proposal, staff provided council’s wish list of items mentioned during the budget review process as potential additions to the budget. Aside from Davis’s parking ticket proposal, none of these projects have yet made it into the budget, although there could be further changes before budget adoption. Proposals included a study of employee compensation (\$150,000), funding conference registration fees (\$20,000) and adding an information technology security audit (\$10,000). Jordan also called for cutting the property tax rate by 2 percent. He pointed out that of the 150 municipalities in the Maryland Municipal League, Greenbelt has the 14th highest tax rate and the second or third highest in Prince George’s County.

The list also included Mach’s proposal to use open space funds for capital projects which would require a city match of up to \$100,000 while Councilmember Rodney Roberts proposed purchasing the Prince Georges Scrap property (no estimate available).

Roberts argued that all the wish list items should be off the table. Councilmember Silke Pope agreed, saying that those are nice-to-have items, not essentials. It is more important to be able to retain all employees, she said.

Putens’ views beyond the start of the call are not presented in this article. Unlike his colleagues participating through computer or tablet, Putens had called into the meeting. Twice he expressed anger at not being recognized to speak although none of his colleagues had apparently heard his request. The second time, after expressing anger at his perceived exclusion, he quit the call.



PHOTO BY CAROL SHAW

This clematis twining a mailbox is in glorious bloom.



AGENDA
GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, May 21, 2020

A. GHI Special Open Session Meeting – starts at 7.00 p.m.

- Approve Motion to Conduct an Executive Session Meeting on May 21, 2020

B. GHI Executive Session Meeting – starts after the Special Open Session Meeting adjourns

- Approve Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting Held on April 16, 2020
- Member Financial Matters
- 2020 Contract for Masonry Crack Repairs – 2nd reading
- 2020 Contract for Parking Lot Repairs – 2nd reading
- 2020 Spring Concrete Repairs – 2nd reading
- Contracts for Pre-sale Repairs to Two GHI Units -1st reading

C. GHI Regular Open Session Meeting– starts at 7.45 p.m.

- Announcement of Executive Session Meeting Held on May 7, 2020
- Announcement of Executive Session Meeting Held on May 21, 2020
- Approve Minutes of Regular Open Session Meeting Held on April 16, 2020
- Approve Minutes of Special Open Session Meeting Held on April 30, 2020
- Review Proposed Charter for the Yards and Exteriors Task Force
- Architectural Review Committee's Recommendation re: Revisions to Member Handbook Section V11: Fences
- Buildings Committee Recommendation re: Revisions to Section X of the GHI Member Handbook
- Proposed Board Meeting Dates during June to August 2020
- GHI COVID-19 Return to Work Action Plan

Members and visitors may attend the Special Open Session and Regular Open Session Meetings via the following Zoom meeting platform:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/377849906>

Meeting ID: 377 849 906

Alternatively, members and visitors may also join the meeting by dialing the following telephone number:
+1 301 715 8592 US
Meeting ID: 377 849 906



To request a sign language interpreter for a board meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

Regular Board meetings are open to Members
For more information, visit our website: www.ghi.coop



PHOTO BY AMANDA LARSEN

Mountain laurels have just started blooming in North Woods.



Each \$10 donation provides 1 reheatable meal to a Greenbelt resident in need. Meals are balanced and delicious. They are made from whole foods and are free from chemicals and preservatives.

Meals are offered on Wednesdays and Saturdays for contactless pickup at The New Deal Cafe front patio from 4:30pm-5pm. Free contactless delivery is available. The signup deadline is Sunday noon for the following Wednesday & Saturday.

Hosted by DC Vegan and MCF Community Church

REQUEST A MEAL
DONATE A MEAL

MCFcc.org/FeedGreenbelt

Customer
Appreciation
Day At
CO-OP
Paid advertisement.

COUNCIL continued from page 1

A further request was made by resident Bill Orleans that information regarding the city’s handling of abatement requests that have been made this year be made available and be discussed at the next meeting.

In an unusual step at a public hearing, Councilmember Emmett Jordan requested that time be allowed at the end of the hearing for councilmembers to discuss their own “wish list” items for the budget – items not already listed on the budget that councilmembers wished to see added to compete for funding – as well as to share other comments on the budget.

Jordan said he had requested this item because he was concerned that council was going through the budget process as if it were business as usual.

“But,” he said, “it is not at all business as usual.” He said he would like to see no addition to the budget and no increase to the actual amount people had had to pay in taxes last year, which would involve lowering the tax rate.

Jordan suggested the city should try to do more to help city residents in need. He commented on food insecurity in the city and noted that Riverdale Park has put aside \$5,000 to establish a program of \$5 vouchers for use at its farmers market, which would help residents and farmers alike. He also suggested considering a temporary repurposing of the economic development fund the city has been building to help small businesses in the city. He added that they had discussed building up the city’s relief fund and should move further on that.

Councilmember Judith Davis, too, had a list of things to consider in controlling the budget, some of which included: deferring all vehicle and equipment replacements and all capital projects except those with grant funding until January; deferring all driveway, sidewalk and curb work until the final highway user fund amount has been announced; increasing parking fees; hiring summer help; and reducing travel reimbursements, with no cut to staff training. She also supported keeping the employee classification and compensation studies, as well as several other studies or audits.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts asked when the city would likely receive any possible support from the county, thus which year’s budget would it impact? City Manager Nicole Ard and City Treasurer Laura Allen agreed that it was not yet known whether it would be the 2021 or 2022 budget. Roberts said the city should not add anything to the

current budget.

Actions taken at the meeting included the following:

The item regarding State Enterprise Zone Designation in Greenbelt West was unanimously deferred to the next regular meeting in order to fine-tune the area of designation.

The item regarding the Forest Preserve Advisory Board’s request to fund a deer-exclusion forest regeneration study in the preserve passed 6-1 with Roberts voting against.

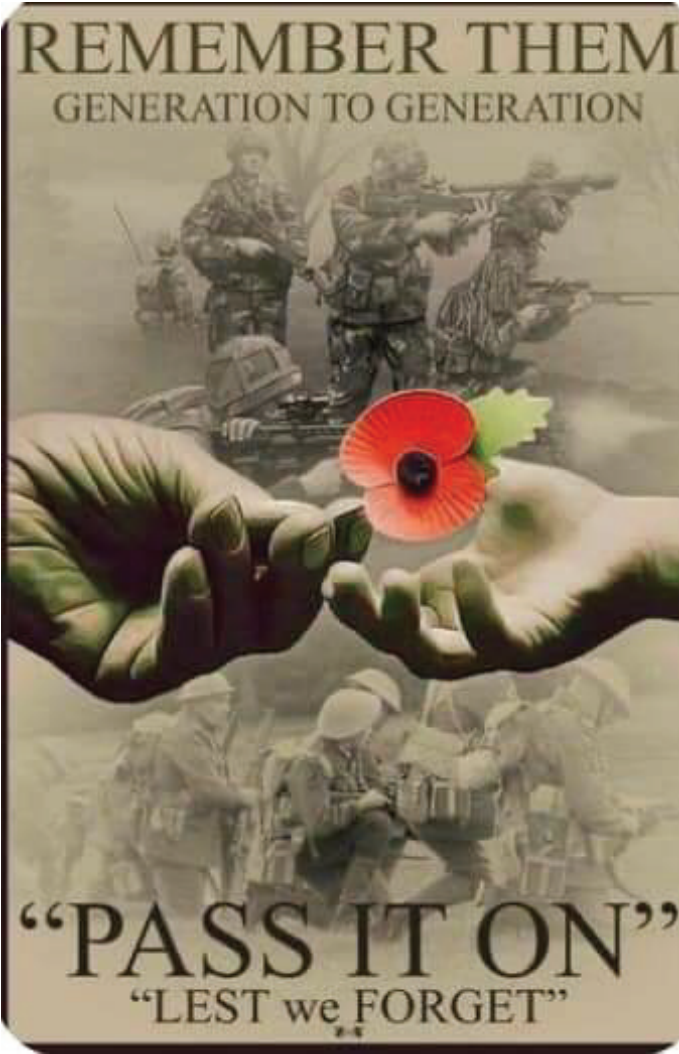
Council unanimously supported a request from Friends of Greenbelt Theatre to approve the renovation of the Pop-up space and create a connection between it and the theater.



A group of painted turtles at Ora Glen Pond in Greenbelt East

PHOTO BY CHARLES JACKMAN

NATIONAL POPPY DAY



FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2020

IN REMEMBRANCE
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Greenbelt Unit 136, American Legion Auxiliary



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BOXED: \$10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15). Deadline 4 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 8 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

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Classified Advertisements

Because the Community Center is closed, individuals wishing to make payments or submit advertising may drop their ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the building (side closest to Roosevelt Center).

For further information call the ad desk at 301-474-4131 or send an email to ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Real Estate and Social Distancing

Doing my part to stop the spread of the Covid-19 virus, for now I will be limiting my in-person meetings. If your immediate need is urgent, let's talk about how to work together safely. That said, **now is a great time for buyers and sellers to get ready for a move.**

- **Buyers**, let's talk by phone or video conferencing on goal-setting and connecting with the right lender for preapproval. You can be ready to roll as soon as the quarantine is lifted! Schedule with me via text 301-789-6294
- **Sellers**: let's plan your best sales strategy and get your house show-ready. Right now, you may have a little more time than usual to get their houses shined up and looking great! Schedule with me via text 301-789-6294

Let's all do our part to keep each other safe. Be in touch!

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Sarah@freedomrealtyhomes.com



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Realtor
Phone: 301.675.1873
Susan@freedomrealtyhomes.com



Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Assault
May 12, 3:30 p.m., 9240 Springhill Lane. A man observed a verbal altercation between a man and a woman and attempted to intervene. When he did this, the man involved with the woman began punching him, which caused him to drop his cell phone. The man doing the punching picked up the cell phone and fled. The man who had been punched refused medical attention for an elbow laceration.

Fraud
May 7, 10:25 a.m., 36 Court Crescent Road. A woman attempted to purchase a puppy online and after she submitted payment never received the dog. A further search revealed that the website was not legitimate.

May 8, 11:47 a.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. A woman reported that two checks she mailed had the amounts altered and were made out to different persons.

May 13, 5:31 p.m., 5923 Cherrywood Terrace. A man received a job offer through email and later received a check for work-related office supplies. He deposited the check and then sent some of the money back to the sender, as requested. The original check was later found to have been fraudulent.

Indecent Exposure
May 7, 6:10 a.m., 5707 Cherrywood Lane. A man exposed himself to a woman after she finished pumping gas at the Shell Food Mart. He then fled on foot onto Breezewood Drive. A description of a person possibly involved has been developed and charges are pending.

Vehicle Crime
A white Ford Econoline 100 van with Maryland tags 1BX580 was taken on May 11 from 6122 Breezewood Drive.

A 2003 Jeep Liberty stolen April 20 from 6001 Cherrywood Court was recovered May 12 by D.C. Metropolitan police in the 2800 block 1st Street, S.E. and a 2015 Ford Escape reported stolen April 21 from 9006 Breezewood Court was recovered May 11 by D.C. Metropolitan police in the 300 block 37th Street S.E.

Rear Virginia tag UPH85538 was taken from 9110 Edmonston Court. Rear trailer tag Maryland 209279X was taken from 6301 Ivy Lane. Four tires and rims were taken from one vehicle on 8012 Greenbelt Station Parkway.

Items were taken from multiple cars that were unlocked or possibly unlocked. These include three cell phones (with one recovered nearby), change and money. Two other possibly unlocked vehicles were rummaged through but nothing appeared to have been taken.

Two thefts occurred after windows were broken out to gain entry. A camera and laptop were taken from 7800 Mandan Road and credit cards and money from 9117 Springhill Lane.

The door to a work van was forced open at 9150 Edmonston Road and power tools and plumbing equipment were taken.

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Mike Cantwell: 240-350-5749
Valerie Pierce: 301-802-4336
Michael McAndrew: 240-432-8233
Richard Cantwell: 410-790-5099
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The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.

Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.



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2-Story Rambler 3BR, 2BA home with walkout basement & wood stove. Large fenced yd. w/wood deck, patio & shed. 3-Car driveway. \$314,900
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SOLD
Need to reach us right away?
Text 'Greenbelt' to 88000 on your cell phone and get an instant response! We can show you any listing in Greenbelt.


Scan here with your cell phone and go directly to our website! Search all of the MLS and more.

Westchester Park 2 Br / 2Ba condominium w/ hardwood floors & amazing views of Greenbelt. \$249,900
SOLD
Cape Cod Home Investors - priced to sell! 3BR, 1 1/2 BA home with large fenced yard & 2 sheds. Sep. dining rm., br & full bath on mn. lev. \$208,900
2 Bedroom Townhome Priced to sell! Modern kitchen, hardwood floors, bathroom. Upgraded appliances, new carpet in kit. Separate laundry room. \$124,900
SOLD
Single Level Living Lower level 1-bedroom GHI townhome - no stairs! Large wood deck in fenced backyard provides plenty of room for entertaining. **Large floorplan w/addition** Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backyard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br. **Townhome w/Garage** 2 br home in the heart of Greenbelt. Large 11' x 17' master br. Full kitchen w/ granite counters. Shaded backyard w/patio.
SOLD
Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced, corner lot. Large family room addition in back, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.
4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.
Townhome with addition 2 br townhome w front laundry/office addition. Opened kitchen w/passthru & pantry. Fenced backyard with large deck.
Charlestowne Village Single-level 1-br condo in Greenbelt - no stairs! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With S/S appliances. \$149,900
Addition - Backs to Woodlands Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. New HVAC system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.
Brick Townhome 2 Bedroom GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood both levels. \$169,900
Upper Level One Bedroom GHI home with full-sized washer and dryer in separate laundry room. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!
2 BR Townhome Remodeled GHI home w/ new carpet fresh paint & ceramic bath. Priced to sell at \$124,900
Your Greenbelt Specialists In Roosevelt Center

Second Market of the Season Goes Off Without a Hitch

by Cathie Meetre

Market #2 on Sunday, May 17, yielded only chilly weather and gray skies. Greenbelters, however, were unperturbed and turned out in their numbers for the event.

Based on feedback from the previous week’s market, with its experimental traffic pattern and queuing, market management refined the design to accommodate comments received from the Greenbelt Community Emergency Response Team (GCERT) and others. With careful precautions in place, masks and hand sanitizer required and no touching of products permitted, the market exceeded precautions in place at grocery stores. Masks are available at the entrance, donation requested.

Safety Adjustments

The line to enter the market was rerouted and a vendor’s layout was changed to remove an awkward corner that had tempted marketgoers to walk in the wrong direction. To accommodate this change, the market tent was placed in the entry zone near the hand sanitizer station where a volunteer read each shopper the market safety rules. A volunteer also monitored the exit to prevent people coming in the wrong way.

Shoppers are to be congratulated on excellent adherence to the rules. Well-defined queuing chalk art by GCERT was invaluable in keeping lines in check, and market volunteers efficiently shouldered the additional tasks that the new setup requires – laying out tape and fencing, positioning additional signage and assisting shoppers and vendors.

GCERT again assisted in monitoring queues and crowd levels so that the market never became too congested and based on their feedback, the next market will have a separate incoming queue for disabled individuals and possibly some reorganization of vendor positioning.

Order Online

Several vendors support ordering and paying online via a website and the items are bagged and ready for pickup at the market. Information on which vendors are offering the service and how to order can be found on the market website, greenbeltfarmersmarket.org, under the vendor tab.

SNAP

The market of May 17 welcomed back the market’s SNAP program that allows recipients of food security funds access to market foods though initially, no matching dollars are available. The organization that provided staffing and equipment last year was dissolved just before the



Nelson and his Pleitez crew stand proudly masked. Pleitez, like other vendors, created a very safe purchasing environment for both their workers and customers - as well as having a wonderful selection.

- Photos by Terry Kucera



Zeke's coffee adds that morning perk to the market. The coffee must be taken outside the market perimeter for consumption but ah, the aroma!

market opened, and program administration has reverted to market volunteers. The market is working to obtain matching funds but at least SNAP is now usable at the market.

Volunteers

The Farmers Market needs more volunteers to assist in market day activities. With the increase in setup, take-down, mar-

ket security requirements and managing SNAP again, its current volunteer roster is stretched thin. Volunteers can sign up for a wide variety of duties and most require no special qualifications except that setup and take-down involve lifting approximately 30 lbs. More information is on the website under the Volunteer tab.

Mask Scams

Beware of online or phone offers to purchase masks that ask you to send payments or gift cards in advance. Make sure that web addresses and phone numbers are legitimate before committing. Remember that many international flights are prohibited so beware especially of offers from overseas.



Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.

If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



Community Covid Coping

My community is special
with so many secret paths
And all the little flowers,
They give me lots of laughs.

My community is special
the playgrounds are so fun
with lots of time to play on them
I can run and run and run.

- by Dora McKenzie (age 7)

Spelling Trouble

I often feel embarrassed that I can’t spell words like harassed, For at school I found the English lessons hell. I was made to count the ‘s’s in addresses and possesses And the ‘l’s in parallelogram as well. I had to use mnemonics to spell words like histrionics, And vicissitude I never did attempt. So while others left the college with encyclopaedic knowledge My solecisms merited contempt.

Then last week when I felt queer with recurrent diarrhea My ipecacuanha brought on visions- From my dog-eared OED buzzed a vicious spelling-bee Citing words with somewhat silly definitions. Diaeresis (those two dots); impetigo (nasty spots); Iridescent; supercede and dynamism; Proceedings (courts of law) and preceding (gone before); Quarrelling and barrenness and schism; Caduceus (Hermes’ wand); larvae (creatures found in ponds); Reconnaissance; recognizance and scion; Hieroglyphics (from the Nile); nuclear physics (from the pile); Ophthalmoscope (a thing to keep your eye on).

Miscellaneous words galore he spewed out as ne’er before, Making him appallingly irascible. Then when he reached zoology, in the name of etymology He demanded I improve as soon as possible. And so I acquiesced before my brain cells coalesced, And naively promised him I’d concentrate On learning how to spell tricky words like bagatelle, Though I don’t expect to shine or even scintillate. There is one consolation to assuage my perturbation, Which occasions wicked xenophobic glee- The new translator panel of our partners ‘cross the Channel If the truth be told are more nonplussed then me!

- Ken Kelsey (brother of News Review staffer Sylvia Lewis, who lived in Dorking, Surrey, U.K.. He was a retired lawyer who never retired from devising number puzzles and writing humorous poems and stories. He died at the age of 96 on March 6, 2020, not due to COVID.)



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT ONLINE

Creative Greenbelt residents cope by decorating sidewalks with works of art.



PHOTO BY STEPHEN KEARNEY

Joy is there if you look for it in Old Greenbelt.